

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed June 3, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1, 2, 5, 16, and 19 have been amended. Claims 1-25 are pending in this application, with claims 1 and 19 being the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action mailed on June 3, 2005, claim 16 is objected to because "The WWW is not a specific address to change the user profile". Dependent claim 16 is amended to clarify that the "user-specific reachability profile is changeable via remote telecommunications access from the user terminal using a WWW user interface". The objection to claim 16 should now be withdrawn.

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,389,288 (Kuwahara) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,748,195 (Phillips).

Claims 19-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Kuwahara.

The present invention relates to a system and method for determining, storing, and utilizing operating mode data of a user terminal in a telecommunication system. In accordance with the invention, user terminals MS1, MS2 are connected to a telecommunications network NET. A telecommunication server DP is also connected to the network NET to maintain information about the user terminals (see paragraph 0039, lines 4-7). In particular, the server DP maintains the current operating mode of each terminal. A memory in server DP monitors the state of subscriber terminals either automatically or under user control (paragraph 0040, lines 4-6). When the A-subscriber (a calling party) desires to establish a connection with a B-subscriber

(a called party), the user can browse the operating mode data of desired B-subscribers on the telecommunication server DP (paragraph 0042, lines 1-4).

Each of the independent claims 1 and 19 has been amended to recite that the current operating mode is made available by the telecommunication server for enquiries by other users. Support for this limitation is found in original dependent claim 2 and at paragraph 0042, lines 1-4 of the present specification. The combined teachings of Kuwahara and Phillips fail to disclose this recitation.

Kuwahara discloses a system in which a terminal executes location-related services. In Fig. 6, Kuwahara discloses a communication system including a mobile telephone network 42, a personal handyphone system (PHS) network 43, a fixed telephone network 44, and a corporate telephone network 45. Each of the mobile telephone network 42, PHS network, and corporate telephone network 45 includes base stations (col. 8, lines 58-65). A personal number server 41 manages location information of a terminal (col. 8, lines 66-67). The personal number server 41 provides location specific functions such as screening business calls when the user is located in an area designated "home" (col. 9, lines 31-36). However, Kuwahara fails to disclose that current mode information is made available to enquiries from other users.

Dependent claim 2 recites that current operating mode data is browsable by other users, which is a specific embodiment for making available the current operating mode data. The Examiner states that the limitations of dependent claim 2 are disclosed by Fig. 19 of Kuwahara. However, that section of Kuwahara merely discloses that the PHS terminal and a portable telephone handset each use reported location information detecting means 1. That disclosure fails to teach or suggest that the current operating mode is made available by the telecommunication server to enquiries from other users because (1) the PHS terminal and

portable telephone handset referred to in Kuwahara are two terminals owned by a single user, and (2) the reported location information detecting means 1 is arranged on each terminal and not on a telecommunication server (see col. 7, lines 60-63). Accordingly, Kuwahara fails to disclose, teach or suggest the step of "making available, by the telecommunication server, the current operating mode data of the user terminal for enquiries by other users", as is expressly recited in independent claims 1 and 19.

Phillips fails to teach or suggest that which Kuwahara lacks. Phillips discloses setting of the configuration of a BluetoothTM terminal based on the terminal location. As shown in Fig. 4 of Phillips, different user profiles are associated with different locations of the terminal (see col. 6, lines 52-55, of Phillips). There is no teaching or suggestion in Philips that data relating to the current user profile data is available to enquiries from other users. Accordingly, the combination of Kuwahara and Phillips fails to disclose, teach or suggest "making available, by the telecommunication server, the current operating mode data of the user terminal for enquiries by other users", as is expressly recited in independent claims 1 and 19.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 19, are allowable over Kuwahara in view of Phillips.

Dependent claims 2-18 and 20-25, each being dependent on one of independent claims 1 and 19, are allowable for at least the same reasons described above with respect to independent claims 1 and 19, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein.

The application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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